

Navy but for joint forces as well. Deploying from both Navy aircraft carriers and joint force land bases, it is recognized as a key DoD element for our Nation's warfighting capability. As the Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Jonathan Greenert has stated, control of the electromagnetic spectrum is critical to the warfighting mission today and in the future.

Analysis demonstrates that additional Growlers would increase operational mission effectiveness more than any component of the Navy's carrier air wing, now and in the future. Recognizing this, the Navy has submitted an 'unfunded priority' for 22 additional Growlers. The Growler is the only DoD option for electronic attack, and limited capacity significantly impacts mission effectiveness against current and future threats.

The Navy and other joint warfighters will not have the opportunity to fulfill an emerging requirement, however, if the F/A-18 production line is not funded in the Fiscal Year 2015 budget. Without additional aircraft, a shutdown decision will need to be made this year. To avoid this, last year Congress added \$75 million in Advanced Procurement thuds for the F/A-18 in the Fiscal Year 2014 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) and the Defense Appropriations Act, Fiscal Year 2014—enough for 22 aircraft.

Another critical consideration is the Nation's defense industrial base for tactical aviation. Today, there are multiple providers for tactical aviation, sophisticated tactical radars, and strike fighter engines. With the end of the F/A-18 production, however, DoD will be left with only a single manufacturer in each one of these areas. This scenario limits warfighting surge capacity, eliminates competition that drives innovation and cost control, and imperils future development programs. Moreover, the F/A-18 program supports American manufacturing, including 60,000 jobs, 800 different suppliers and vendors, and provides \$3 billion in annual economic impact.

We ask you to support the Navy's unfunded priority of 22 additional EA-18G Growlers as you consider the Fiscal Year 2015 defense bills. If Congress does not support further Growler production, we will lose the only full spectrum electronic warfare aircraft production line.

Thank you very much for your attention to this request.

Sincerely,

Ann Wagner; Blaine Luetkemeyer; Pat Meehan; Rodney Davis; Wm. Lacy Clay; Cheri Bustos; William L. Enyart; Robert R. Brady; Doug Lamborn; Paul Cook; Frank A. LoBiondo; Jason T. Smith; Joseph R. Pitts; Chris Collins.

Niki Tsongas; Carol Shea-Porter; Corrine Brown; Gerald E. Connolly; Emanuel Cleaver; Matt Cartwright; Sam Graves; Adam Kinzinger; Billy Long; Bill Posey; Gregg Harper; Leonard Lance; Tony Cardenas; Sheila Jackson Lee.

Grace F. Napolitano; Allyson Y. Schwartz; Grace Meng; Bennie G. Thompson; Richard L. Hanna; Steve Chabot; Peter T. King; David W. Jolly; Devin Nunes; Keith J. Rothfus; Michelle Lujan Grisham; Louise McIntosh Slaughter; Marcia L. Fudge; David Loebsack.

Daniel Lipinski; Ann M. Kuster; George Holding; Michael K. Simpson; David G. Reichert; Michele Bachmann; David G. Valadao; Steve Stivers; John F. Tierney; Alan S. Lowenthal; Rosa L. DeLauro; Rick Larsen; Bill Pascrell, Jr.; Robin L. Kelly.

Gary G. Miller; Rob Bishop; Tom Rice; Michael G. Fitzpatrick; John J. Duncan, Jr.; Cory Gardner; Sanford D. Bishop, Jr.; Colleen W. Hanabusa; Derek Kilmer; Sean Patrick Maloney; Timothy H. Bishop; Steve Israel.

Jim Bridenstine; Stevan Pearce; Jon Runyan; Scott R. Tipton; Gus M. Bilirakis; Mike Rogers; John C. Carney, Jr.; Daniel B. Maffei; Suzan K. DelBene; Tulsi Gabbard; Ann Kirkpatrick, G.K. Butterfield.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE OF DR. ANGELA GOLDEN

HON. ANN KIRKPATRICK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Mrs. KIRKPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize a constituent of mine, Dr. Angela Golden, DNP, FNP-C, FAANP, of Munds Park, Arizona, for her service in the last 2 years as president of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners. Dr. Golden has more than 34 years of nursing experience. She received her BSN from Ball State University in 1977, a Master's in Nursing Education from the University of Phoenix in 1996 and a Master's in Science from Northern Arizona University in 1998. Additionally, she completed her Doctorate of Nursing Practice at Arizona State University in December 2008.

The American Association of Nurse Practitioners is a national professional membership organization representing 189,000 NPs nationally. Under Dr. Golden's tenure, AANP membership has grown to more than 50,000 members, making AANP the largest NP organization in the world. Dr. Golden has helped lead NPs in transforming patient-centered health care and has made tremendous strides in ensuring that policymakers and the public understand the care NPs provide to millions of Americans each year.

In addition to her duties as AANP President, Dr. Golden serves as an Assistant Professor at Northern Arizona University, teaching in both undergraduate and graduate programs. Dr. Golden owns a family primary care practice, NP from Home, LLC, where she provides primary care to my constituents of northern Arizona and my fellow Arizonans in the urgent care setting in the Phoenix metropolitan area.

I want to congratulate Dr. Golden on a successful term as AANP president and thank her on behalf of my constituents in Arizona's First District for the excellent care she has provided to her patients.

USA FREEDOM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 3361, the USA Freedom Act.

I want to commend Chairman GOODLATTE, Chairman ROGERS, Ranking Member CONYERS, and Ranking Member RUPPERSBERGER for crafting a compromise bill—and taking into account many of the recommendations offered by the Presidents' Review Group on Intelligence and Communications Technologies—that will strengthen the privacy and civil liberties of all Americans. At the same time, the USA Freedom Act will ensure that that our na-

tion continues to have the necessary and appropriate tools to protect our country from those who would seek to do us harm.

This legislation represents an important first step in reforming many of the powers that the National Security Agency (NSA) currently has at its disposal. Specifically, it would end the government's bulk collection of phone metadata and other tangible records through the use of Section 215, Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) pen registers, and National Security letters. It would also increase transparency and oversight within our surveillance operations by requiring the government to disclose the number of requests made for call records under the new collection process and provide Congress a summary of compliance records related to the use of Section 215.

Another significant change is that for the first time, every request made by the NSA for specific call records must be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the FISA court. This improved oversight is something I have advocated for and I am pleased it was included in this bill.

While this bill is an improvement over current practices, it still falls short of what is needed to ensure adequate privacy protections. I am disappointed that the bill does not establish a Citizens Advocate to represent citizens' privacy interests at the secret FISA Court proceedings. Last December, Representative JIM JORDAN and I introduced bipartisan legislation to create such a position. I was pleased when the earlier versions of this bill adopted a similar provision. Unfortunately, Section 401 of H.R. 3361 has since been weakened and only provides for a panel of advisors to be employed at the discretion of the FISC.

I also have concerns that last minute changes have the potential to create a backdoor loophole where the government can continue to collect vast amounts of phone metadata under certain circumstances. It is my hope that the Senate will strengthen the bill we voted on today by reinstituting the Special Advocate under Section 401, and more narrowly defining what constitutes a "discrete term".

Despite these reservations, the USA Freedom Act represents real progress and a departure from the untenable status quo. It ensures that the intelligence and law enforcement community have the necessary tools they need to protect our nation, but it does so in a manner that is consistent with the fundamental principles in our Constitution to protect the civil liberties of all Americans.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF MAJOR ROBERT LIKINS III

HON. MAC THORNBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Robert Likins III of the Army Office of the Chief of Legislative Liaison (OCLL), who will retire from the United States Army on October 1, 2014, after almost 25 years of distinguished service.

Major Likins first entered the military as an enlisted infantryman. Looking for challenges

around every corner, he volunteered, assessed, and was selected to serve in the 75th Ranger Regiment, 5th Special Forces Group, and the Southern European Task Force. After several years and multiple overseas deployments, Major Likins felt a greater calling of leadership and pursued a commission in the U.S. Army.

Major Likins was commissioned as an infantry officer on October 11th, 2001, through Officer Candidate School. As an officer, he served in several leadership positions in light infantry and airborne units across the country and Europe. At the beginning of Operation Iraqi Freedom, serving as a Company Executive Officer in the 173rd Airborne, Major Likins participated in a daring brigade-level parachute assault into Iraq. He then deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and served as an operations officer within the 2–503rd Infantry (Airborne).

Major Likins then joined the 10th Mountain Division and commanded two different infantry companies. On his second command, Major Likins deployed his company to an austere company outpost in Iraq where he partnered and trained an Iraqi Army battalion. Major Likins was then selected as an Army Congressional Fellow where he served as an integral member of my staff. Finally, he served as the legislative liaison managing the Soldier Systems portfolio, ensuring our troops going into combat are supplied with the best equipment available.

Major Likins has truly lived at the tip of the spear throughout his career. From Desert Storm to Haiti, Bosnia to Kosovo, and to Iraq to Afghanistan, he has deployed to almost every place around the globe where the Army has been sent into harm's way. He has also earned two Masters Degrees during his service and has exemplified the warrior-scholar who our nation needs leading our men and women into combat.

Throughout his 25 years of service to the nation, Major Likins has earned numerous awards and decorations to include: Combat Infantryman's Badge, Expert Infantryman's Badge, Special Forces and Ranger Tabs, Master Parachutists Wings with combat jump device, Air Assault Badge, the Meritorious Service Medal, and the Legion of Merit.

I am proud to share in the celebration of Major Likins' military career. I would also like to congratulate his wife, Bettina, and his two children, Patrick and Kirsten, whose love and support aided and strengthened Major Likins as he has served our great nation. I wish him all the best in his retirement.

HONORING DR. MICHAEL
SEVERINO

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Mr. ROSKAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Michael Severino, M.D., an outstanding physician from Illinois. Recently, AbbVie, a cutting-edge pharmaceutical company with a large Illinois presence, named Dr. Severino Executive Vice President of Research and Development (R&D) and Chief Scientific Officer. AbbVie's selection of Dr. Severino to lead corporate innovation and

product development reflects a company-wide commitment to developing new therapies and continuing to push the bio-tech industry to new frontiers.

Dr. Severino's responsibilities will include leading AbbVie's R&D, Medical Affairs and Regulatory Affairs organizations, bringing his years of experience to bear on guiding the company's 7,000 worldwide employees engaged in scientific discovery. Collectively, they will be working to develop a steady stream of new medicines for patients.

Dr. Severino has most recently served as Senior Vice President and Chief Medical Officer at AbbVie. He is a leader in clinical development strategy across therapeutic areas including immunology, neuroscience, oncology and cardiovascular disease. Over ten years at AbbVie, Dr. Severino has consistently taken on positions of increasing responsibility, particularly in the area of R&D.

AbbVie's Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Michael Gonzalez, praised Dr. Severino stating, "We are fortunate to have a leader of his caliber to steer our efforts to develop treatments for today's toughest health challenges. He will be instrumental in moving our pipeline and strategy forward."

Mr. Speaker, and my distinguished colleagues in the House, please join me in congratulating Dr. Severino on his new position and wishing him many future successes as he works to understand and treat a wide array of ailments to help others live happier, healthier lives.

REMEMBERING TONY HACKBARTH

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Tony Hackbarth. Tony, who passed away on May 21, 2014, was a larger than life figure in the Hi-Desert's city of Barstow.

Better known as Mr. Del Taco, Tony and his brother Ed opened the first Del Taco on First Street in Barstow in 1966. By 1981, Del Taco had 250 locations across the Golden State feeding thousands of customers every day. After selling the franchise in 1979, Tony remained the owner and operator of the three Barstow restaurants located on First Street, Mountain View, and Lenwood Road. He worked at the First Street location up until his death.

Everyone in the Barstow community knew Tony and could find him waving out of the drive through window of the First Street Del Taco location. A true man of the people, and a champion of the community it is with a heavy heart that I stand here today.

Tony served four years in the U.S. Air Force and was discharged in 1958. In 2001, he was awarded the "Man of Continuous Service" by the Barstow Chamber of Commerce and he and his wife were awarded the "Parents of the Year" award in 1990.

Tony is survived by his wife of 56 years, Barbara and their four children, Julie, Mark, Aaron, and Brae. I join with the City of Barstow and everyone who had the pleasure of knowing Tony in remembering him, and praying for his family.

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my opposition to H.R. 4031, the Department of Veterans Affairs Management Accountability Act of 2014.

I represent the VA West Los Angeles Medical Center, which is the largest VA medical facility in the Nation. I am outraged by the recent allegations of serious misconduct and mismanagement at VA hospitals. I understand the urgency my colleagues feel to act, but this legislation will not solve the problems plaguing the Department of Veterans Affairs because it doesn't address the systemic deficiencies that are preventing our veterans from getting the care they so deserve.

H.R. 4031 has been brought to the floor without a committee hearing or markup. It gives the Secretary of the VA the authority to fire Senior Executive Service (SES) employees at will. The Secretary already has the authority to fire SES employees for cause. The legislation is not only unnecessary; it is harmful because it would allow political appointees to fire nonpolitical senior federal executives for any reason. It would set a bad precedent and jeopardize the Department's ability to recruit the most talented individuals to the VA.

I want to work with my colleagues to draft sensible legislation that will actually solve the problems at the VA with a new metric for accountability and executive performance.

INTRODUCING THE INVESTING TO MODERNIZE THE PRODUCTION OF AMERICAN CLEAN ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY ACT OF 2014

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 28, 2014

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Investing to Modernize the Production of American Clean Energy and Technology Act of 2014, a bill that will continue this Nation's march towards sustainable power solutions.

This bill will continue a number of valuable tax provisions used by clean energy companies to level the playing field so that clean energy can compete with its more established traditional-energy counterparts. This is done by extending tax provisions for onshore and offshore wind and other renewable energy production.

The bill also provides incentives for clean energy manufacturing, energy efficient appliances and homes, electric vehicles, and a new era of natural gas-powered vehicles.

At the same time, this bill prevents major oil companies from continuing to benefit from corporate giveaways tucked into the tax code at a time when their industry is making record profits.

This bill is a statement of principles and vision as much as it is about tax policy. America